
Licenses: Formal Reprimand, Denial, Suspension, Revocation and Restoration

The Background:

Formal Reprimand Denial, Suspension or Revocation:

Pursuant to State Board of Education Rule 0520-02-03-.09:

The State Board of Education shall automatically revoke the license of a licensed teacher or administrator without the right to a hearing upon receiving verification of the identity of the teacher or administrator together with a certified copy of a criminal record showing that the teacher or school administrator has been convicted of any felony or offense listed at T.C.A. §§ 40-35-501(i)(2), 39-17-417, a sexual offense or a violent sexual offense as defined in 40-39-202, any offense in title 39, chapter 13, 39-14-301 and 39-14-302, 39-14-401 and 39-14-404, 39-15-401 and 39-15-402, 39-17-1320, or any other offense in title 39, chapter 17, part 13 (including conviction on a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, conviction for the same or similar offense in any jurisdiction, or conviction for the solicitation of, attempt to commit, conspiracy, or acting as an accessory to such offenses).

Also, the State Board of Education may revoke, suspend, reprimand formally or refuse to issue or renew a license for the following reasons:

1. Conviction of a felony,
2. Conviction of possession of narcotics,
3. Being on school premises or at a school-related activity involving students while documented as being under the influence of, possessing or consuming alcohol or illegal drugs,
4. Falsification or alteration of a license or documentation required for licensure,
5. Denial, suspension or revocation of a license or certificate in another jurisdiction for reasons which would justify denial, suspension or revocation under this rule, or
6. Other good cause. Other good cause shall be construed to include noncompliance with security guidelines for TCAP or successor tests pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-1-607, default on a student loan pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-5-108(d)(2) or failure to report under part (5).

For purposes of this part (b), “conviction” includes conviction on a plea of guilty, a plea of nolo contendere or an order granting pre-trial or judicial diversion.

A person whose license has been denied, suspended or revoked may not serve as a volunteer or be employed, directly or indirectly, as an educator, paraprofessional, aide, substitute teacher or in any other position during the period of the denial, suspension or revocation.

The Recommendations:

Board action is required. State Board staff recommends approval of the recommended actions noted below.

- A. William Arden - Suspension, 2 years
- B. Jeffrey Blackburn - Suspension, 2 years
- C. Jammie Castleman - Revocation
- D. Billy Ray Duncan - Suspension, 18 months
- E. Jason Hunt - Revocation
- F. Stanley Jones - Suspension, 2 years retroactive
- G. Alfred Lloyd - revocation
- H. Dianne Lowery - revocation
- I. Angela Martin - Revocation, permanent
- J. Pamela McClanahan - Suspension, 1 year
- K. Elizabeth McIntyre - Suspension, 2 years retroactive
- L. John Thomas Mullinicks - Revocation, automatic

*Items A, B, H, and I are subject to the Emergency Board Rule filed on September 5, 2017, and expired on March 4, 2018.

Pursuant to State Board of Education Rule 0520-02-03-.09(3)(h) the State Board of Education may revoke, suspend, formally reprimand, or refuse to issue or renew an educator's license for any offense contained in part (4) of this rule.

Part (4) Disciplinary Actions -

(c) For the following categories of offenses, the State Board of Education shall impose uniform disciplinary action as detailed below:

3. Negligence in the commission of duties as an educator

(i) An individual holding an educators license who is found to be negligent in his or her commission of duties as an educator in such a manner that does not result in harm to a child shall be subject to a disciplinary action without the range of a letter of formal reprimand up to and including a two (2)-year suspension.

5. Unprofessionalism

(ii) An individual holding an educator's license who is found to have engaged in non-explicit inappropriate communication with a student shall be subject to a disciplinary action within the range of a suspension for no less than three (3) months up to and including revocation.

(iv) An individual holding an educator's license who is found to have inappropriately used school property shall be subject to a disciplinary action within the range of a suspension for no less than three (3) months up to and including revocation.

6. Inappropriate Physical Contact

(ii) An individual holding an educator's license who is found to have engaged in inappropriate physical contact with a student that results in harm or potential harm to the student shall be subject to a disciplinary action within the range of a suspension for not less than two (2) years up to and including permanent revocation.

(g) Nothing in this rule shall prohibit the State Board from imposing a disciplinary action outside of the uniform discipline range upon good cause shown in extraordinary circumstances.

William Arden
Suspension, 2 years

The Background:

Facts: On November 16, 2017, Educator resigned from the Oneida Special School District in lieu of termination after he used inappropriate communication with students and administration. Educator cursed and yelled at students, got in administration's face about not having a 7th grade flag line, allegedly made a student take a pregnancy test, called a student a 1 a.m., and used inappropriate language with students (cursed in conversation when texting with students and called another student a pimp).

Status: Respondent was notified by certified mail of the Board's intent to suspend his license for two years based upon these findings and of his right to a hearing. Respondent received notice but did not request a hearing.

The Recommendation:

Respondent's conduct constitutes grounds for suspension of his educator license pursuant to Board Emergency Rule 0520-02-03-.09(3)(h), (4)(c)(3)(i), and (4)(c)(5)(ii).

The Board staff recommends a two year suspension of Respondent's Tennessee educator license.

Jeffrey Blackburn
Suspension, 2 years

The Background:

Facts: On November 6, 2017, Educator retired from Bristol City Schools in lieu of termination for inappropriate using school property. Educator was witnessed by a student viewing inappropriate material on his school class Promethean board when students were entering his classroom. While the sites visited by Educator were not illegal, they were pornographic in nature. In the month of October 2017, Educator visited over 100 sites on the school's device between the early morning hours, afternoon and evening hours and a couple of times during the school day.

Status: Respondent was notified by certified mail of the Board's intent to suspend his license for two years based upon these findings and of his right to a hearing. Respondent received notice but did not request a hearing.

The Recommendation:

Respondent's conduct constitutes grounds for suspension of his educator license pursuant to Board Emergency Rule 0520-02-03-.09(3)(h) and (4)(c)(5)(iv).

The Board staff recommends a two year suspension of Respondent's Tennessee educator license.

Jammie Castleman
Revocation

The Background:

Facts: In November 2016, Educator used inappropriate language such as the f*** word in his class. In December 2016, Educator was suspended for three days after encouraging/directing a student to repeat vulgar and sexually explicit language in front of his entire class. In March 2017, Educator was suspended pending an investigation into complaints from students and parents regarding an inappropriate vocabulary lesson about sexual innuendos and referring to students performing sexual acts. On March 16, 2017, Respondent resigned from Tipton County Schools in lieu of termination for inappropriate communication with students as the Director of Schools was prepared to recommend Educator for dismissal to the Tipton County Board of Education.

Status: Respondent was notified by certified mail of the Board's intent to revoke his license based upon these findings and of his right to a hearing. Respondent received notice but did not request a hearing.

The Recommendation:

Respondent's conduct constitutes grounds for license revocation pursuant to Board Rule 0520-02-03-.09(2)(f).

The Board staff recommends revocation of Respondent's Tennessee educator license.

Billy Ray Duncan
Suspension, 18 months

The Background:

Facts: On January 4, 2017, Respondent resigned from Blount County Schools pending allegations of unprofessional conduct including, but not limited to, shoving a basketball player during practice in November 2016 and calling a basketball player a “Cambodian Refugee.”

Status: Respondent was notified by certified mail of the Board’s intent to suspend his educator license for two years from January 3, 2017 to January 3, 2019 based upon these findings, and of his right to a hearing. Respondent received notice, and waived his right to a hearing, but agreed to an eighteen month suspension beginning January 3, 2017, and ending on July 3, 2018.

The Recommendation:

Respondent’s conduct constitutes grounds for license suspension pursuant to Board Rule 0520-02-03-.09(2)(f).

The Board staff recommends that the Board enter into an agreed order with Respondent for an eighteen month suspension of his Tennessee educator license beginning January 3, 2017, and ending on July 3, 2018.

Jason Hunt
Revocation

The Background:

Facts: On July 6, 2016, Educator was convicted of two counts of felony vandalism and one count of reckless endangerment.

Status: Respondent was notified by certified mail of the Board's intent to revoke his license based upon these findings, and of his right to a hearing. Respondent received notice but did not request a hearing.

The Recommendation:

Respondent's conduct constitutes grounds for license revocation pursuant to Board Rule 0520-02-03-.09(2)(a).

The Board staff recommends that Respondent's Tennessee educator license be revoked.

Stanley Jones
Suspension, 2 years, retroactive

The Background:

- Facts:* On May 1, 2015, Respondent retired from Knox County Schools effective May 22, 2015, after being on school premises under the influence of alcohol.
- Status:* Respondent was notified via certified mail of the Board's intent to suspend his license based upon these findings, and of his right to a hearing. Respondent received notice, but did not request a hearing.

The Recommendation:

Respondent's conduct constitutes grounds for license suspension pursuant to Board Rule 0520-02-03-.09(2)(c).

The Board staff recommends that Respondent's Tennessee educator license be suspended for two years, retroactively from April 23, 2015 to April 23, 2017.

Alfred Lloyd
Revocation

The Background:

Facts: On February 28, 2017, Respondent resigned from Shelby County Schools after an investigation showed that Respondent had inappropriate physical contact with a student. Respondent removed a student from his class by taking him to the school's office. During the transport to the office, Respondent dropped said student causing him to hit his head on the floor in the hallway. This incident was reported to DCS, but DCS closed their investigation finding no substantiation. Student's mother pressed charges for child abuse and neglect, but said charges were dismissed and expunged from Educator's record.

Status: Respondent was notified by certified mail of the Board's intent to revoke his educator license based upon these findings, and of his right to a hearing. The certified letter was returned unclaimed. The United States Postal Service notation that a properly addressed certified letter is "unclaimed" is sufficient legal notice to the addressee. Additionally, Respondent was notified by electronic mail of the Board's intent to revoke his educator license. Respondent has waived the right to a hearing.

The Recommendation:

Respondent's conduct constitutes grounds for license revocation pursuant to Board Rule 0520-02-03-.09(2)(f).

The Board staff recommends revocation of Respondent's Tennessee educator license.

**Dianne Lowery
Revocation**

The Background:

Facts: On November 10, 2017, Respondent retired from Henry County Schools, in lieu of termination, for inappropriate contact with a student. Educator grabbed and slapped a student across her face.

Status: Respondent was notified via certified mail of the Board's intent to revoke her license based upon these findings, and of her right to a hearing. Respondent received notice, but did not request a hearing.

The Recommendation:

Respondent's conduct constitutes grounds for license revocation pursuant to Board Emergency Rule 0520-02-03-.09(3)(h), (4)(c)(6)(ii).

The Board staff recommends that Respondent's Tennessee educator license be revoked.

Tennessee State Board of Education
April 20, 2018
I.

Agenda
Teacher Licensure Actions: VI.

**Angela Martin
Revocation, permanent**

The Background:

Facts: On November 8, 2017, Respondent resigned from Shelby County Schools after an investigation into her having inappropriate communication and physical contact with a student. The inappropriate communication was explicit in nature, and the physical contact involved Respondent kissing the student on separate occasions.

Status: Respondent was notified by certified mail of the Board's intent to permanently revoke her license based upon these findings, and of her right to a hearing. Respondent received notice, but did not request a hearing.

The Recommendation:

Respondent's conduct constitutes grounds for permanent revocation of her license pursuant to Board Rule 0520-02-03-.09(3)(h) and (4)(c)(6)(ii).

The Board staff recommends that Respondent's Tennessee educator license be revoked permanently.

Pamela McClanahan
Suspension, 1 year

The Background:

Facts: Respondent was suspended for three days from Athens City Schools for administering corporal punishment to a pre-kindergarten student when she popped said student in the mouth to redirect behavior. Respondent reinstated and transferred to the middle school.

Status: Respondent was notified by certified mail of the Board's intent to suspend her educator license for one year based upon these findings, and of her right to a hearing. Respondent received notice, but did not request a hearing.

The Recommendation:

Respondent's conduct constitutes grounds for license suspension pursuant to Board Rule 0520-02-03-.09(2)(f).

The Board staff recommends a one year suspension of Respondent's Tennessee educator license.

Elizabeth McIntyre
2 years, suspension, retroactive

The Background:

- Facts:* On August 20, 2015, Respondent retired after she pulled a student's hair and appeared to simulate choking a student after redirecting the student's behavior.
- Status:* Respondent was notified by certified mail of the Board's intent to suspend her educator license retroactively from August 19, 2015 to August 19, 2017, based upon these findings, and of her right to a hearing. Respondent received notice, but did not request a hearing.

The Recommendation:

Respondent's conduct constitutes grounds for license suspension pursuant to Board Rule 0520-02-03-.09(2)(f).

The Board staff recommends that Respondent's Tennessee educator license be suspended for two years, retroactively from August 19, 2015 to August 19, 2017.

John Thomas Mullinicks
Revocation, automatic

The Background:

Facts: On November 8, 2017, an Order of Judgment was entered in the Criminal/Circuit Court for Dickson County, Tennessee against Respondent. Respondent pled guilty to four counts of statutory rape by an authority figure. On January 11, 2018, Respondent was sentenced to four years in the Tennessee Department of Correction ("TDOC"), register on sex offender registry for life and is not eligible for parole for each count of statutory rape by an authority figure.

Status: Respondent was notified by certified mail of the Board's intent to automatically revoke his educator license based upon these findings. Respondent received said notice.

The Recommendation:

Respondent's conduct constitutes grounds for license revocation pursuant to Board Rule 0520-02-03-.09(1).

The Board staff recommends automatic revocation of Respondent's Tennessee educator license.